

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 NIC-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 SCCT-01 /074 W

----- 068503

R 020955Z APR 75

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3389

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SAALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

CINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 350

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, UR, MZ

SUBJECT: SOVIET ECONOMIC DELEGATION VISITS MOZAMBIQUE

1. A FOURTEEN-MEMBER SOVIET ECONOMIC DELEGATION ARRIVED LOURENCO MARQUES MARCH 29 FROM DAR ES SALAAM. THEY PROCEEDED IMMEDIATELY FOR TWO-DAY VISIT TO BEIRA, ACCOMPANIED BY MANUEL DOS SANTOS, CHIEF OF PROTOCOL IN PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (AND FRELIMO CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER). DELEGATION RETURNED TO LOURENCO MARQUES MARCH 31 AND BEGAN ROUND OF TALKS WITH TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT SENIOR OFFICIALS.

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WM IN BEIRA DELEGATION MET WITH GOVERNOR OF BEIRA, CANGALA DE MENDONCA, POLITICAL COMMISSAR OMAR JUMA, COMMANDANTE DIQUE TONGANDE OF FRELIMO MILITARY AND OTHERS.

3. IN LOURENCO MARQUES, DELEGATION MET AT AIRPORT BY FRELIMO MILITARY CHIEF SEBASTIAO MABOTE; AT PUBLICIZED OFFICIAL SESSION APRIL, TALKS OPENED BY MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE GIDEON NDOBE, WHO LED TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT SIDE IN PRIMIN CHISSANO'S ABSENCE. OTHER IMPORTANT FIGURES AT MEETING INCLUDED MABOTE, PEDRO JUMA, GOVERNOR OF MAPUTO PROVINCE, MARIO GRACA, MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC COORDINATION AND RUI BALTAZAR, MINISTER OF JUSTICE.

4. DELEGATION GIVEN VERY GOOD PRESS COVERAGE AND TREATMENT. LEADER OF 13 MEN AND 1 WOMAN SOVIET DELEGATION, (FNU) TOMBERG, REPEATEDLY STATED TO LOCAL REPORTERS THAT PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS TO EXPLORE WITH TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT AND FRELIMO "BASES FOR FUTURE ECONOMIC COOPERATION". TOMBERG, DURING PRESS INTERVIEWS, DECLINED SPECIFY WHAT TYPES OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION DISCUSSED, SAYING ONLY THIS WOULD DEPEND ON THE TALKS, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS SO FAR "FRUITFUL". TOMBERG NOTED THAT PRIOR ARRIVING MOZAMBIQUE DELEGATION MET WITH FRELIMO PRESIDENT MACHEL, VICE-PRESIDENT DOS SANTOS AND OTHER SENIOR FRELIMO OFFICIALS IN DAR ES SALAAM, IN WHICH THE FORTHCOMING WORK OF THE DELEGATION IN MOZAMBIQUE WAS DISCUSSED.

5. COMMENT: SIZE OF SOVIET DELEGATION, 14, REPRESENTS USUAL SOVIET OVERKILL AND DESPITE FAVORABLE PRESS THEY NOT HELPED BY HAVING ONLY ONE PORTUGUESE SPEAKER--NOT TOMBERG. BEIRA VISIT WAS PERFUNCTORY TOUR PROBABLY TO KILL TIME WHILE LOURENCO MARQUES TALKS ARRANGED. WHILE MABOTE AND OTHER FRELIMO MILITARY IN RECEPTION PARTIES, NO INDICATION THAT MILITARY AID WAS DISCUSSED ALTHOUGH DO NOT RULE THIS OUT.
WALKER

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